

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03 ACDA-19

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-03 NSC-07 SS-20 OMB-01 CIEP-02 SAM-01

NEA-14 NIC-01 DRC-01 /155 W  
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R 151446Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 849

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 10974

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, UR, US

SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY RECAP OF SAUVAGNARGUES VISIT

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

1. PENDING MORE DETAILED BRIEFINGS, FRENCH EMBOFF DURING BASTILLE DAY RECEPTION JULY 15 GAVE US GENERAL RUNDOWN ON SAUVAGNARGUES TALKS IN SOVIET UNION JULY 11-13. PLEASE PROTECT INFORMATION AND SOURCE CLOSELY.
2. IN ADDITION TO TALKS WITH GROMYKO, SAUVAGNARTUES HAD FOUR-HOUR MEETING WITH BREZHNEV IN CRIMEA. HAVING UNDERSTOOD THAT BREZHNEV SHOWED SOME SIGNS OF FATIGUE DURING NIXON VISIT, FRENCH WERE STRUCK BY HOW FIT AND RESTED HE SEEMED. HE WAS ALSO BRIMMING WITH CONFIENCE; HE ASURED HIS VISITORS THAT THE 25TH PARTY CONGRESS (IN 1976) WOULD ENDORSE THE SOVIET DETENT POLICY.
3. SOVIETS SEEMED MAINLY INTERESTED IN SIZING UP NEW FRENCH TEAM AND IN STRESSING NEED FOR CONTINUITY IN  
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FRANCO-SOVIET RELATIONS. THEY EMPHASIZED THEIR OWN

DESIRE TO PRESERVE THE SAME RELATIONSHIP AS HAD  
EXISTED BEFORE POMPIDOU'S DEATH, AND SEEMED A BIT  
NERVOUS ABOUT FRENCH COMMITMENT TO SAME OBJECTIVE.

4. SOVIETS SHOWED GREAT INTEREST IN AN EARLY BREZHNEV-  
GISCARD SUMMIT. THE FRENCH APPEAR NOT TO HAVE  
BEEN IN ANY HURRY; THEY EXPLAINED THAT DATE WOULD DEPEND  
ON GISCARD'S DOMESTIC WORKLOAD. IT WAS NOT  
DECIDED WHETHER VISIT WOULD BE TO FRANCE (I.E., A  
WORKING VISIT IN EXCHANGE FOR POMPIDOU'S VISIT LAST  
SPRING) OR TO THE USSR (I.E., AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO  
RETURN BREZHNEV'S TRIP TO FRANCE IN 1971).

5. OUR SOURCE SAID THAT THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE MEETING  
WAS GOOD. ASKED ABOUT PRAVDA'S PECULIAR COVERAGE  
OF THE JULY 11 TOASTS (IT GAVE GROMYKO THREE TIMES AS  
MUCH SPACE AS SAUVAGNARGUES), FRENCH EMBOFF SAID THAT  
GROMYKO HAD A PREPARED TEXT, WHICH HE SEEMED  
INTERESTED IN USING AS A POST-NIXON VISIT PRESS  
STATEMENT. FRENCH WERE SURPRISED THAT GROMYKO  
REFERRED THREE TIMES IN TOAST TO SOVIET-U.S.  
RELATIONS. WE WONDER IF THEY WERE ALSO SOMEWHAT ANNOYED.

6. ON INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS, CSCE DOMINATED MOST OF  
THE DISCUSSION, AS WAS TO BE EXPECTED. CSCE TALK WAS  
LARGELY LIMITED TO BASKET THREE, ON WHICH FRENCH  
DETECTED NO GIVE IN SOVIET POSITION. AT ONE POINT  
GROMYKO SHOWED SOME ANGER IN DISCUSSING FRENCH  
IDEAS FOR BASKET THREE. SOVIETS ALSO SPOKE OF DELAYING  
TACTICS, BUT APPARENTLY DID NOT PRESS IDEA OF A CONCLUDING  
STAGE SUMMIT (POSSIBLY IN DEFERENCE TO FRENCH POSITION  
ON THIS).

7. IN MIDDLE EAST, OUR SOURCE SAID THAT SOVIETS DID NOT  
TREAT ARAFAT AS SPOKESMAN FOR PALESTINIAN INTERESTS AND  
REFERRED TO HIM WITH CONSIDERABLE CAUTION.

8. FRENCH RAISED THE SUBJECT OF CHINA, BUT  
BREZHNEV AFTER A FEW PERFUNCTORY REMARKS DISMISSED  
SUBJECT WITH A SARCASTIC REFERENCE. STOESEL  
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## Message Attributes

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